

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4417

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Revises 2050 limit on Statewide greenhouse gas emissions.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning Statewide greenhouse gas emissions and  
2 amending P.L.2007, c.112.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2007, c.112 (C.26:2C-38) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. The Legislature finds and declares that internationally the  
10 issue of global warming has caused alarm, awareness, and action  
11 concerning climate changes occurring around the globe attributed to  
12 the high level of certain gases called "greenhouse gases" - gases  
13 that increase temperatures in the atmosphere and the risk of  
14 catastrophic changes to the Earth's ecosystems and environment;  
15 that, while this global warming may be a theory to some, the effects  
16 of increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are  
17 accepted by many respected scientists and members of the  
18 international community as seriously detrimental to the ecosystems  
19 and environment of the world; that, ultimately, if steps are not taken  
20 to reverse these trends, the effects on human, animal and plant life  
21 on Earth may be catastrophic; that solutions exist to halt the  
22 increasing of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and reduce these  
23 emissions; that, as a global issue, each country and region within a  
24 country must do its part to reduce these greenhouse gases that  
25 threaten the globe; and that, as a State, there are specific actions  
26 that can be taken to attack the problem of global warming, through  
27 reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in the State and  
28 participation in regional and interstate initiatives to reduce these  
29 emissions regionally, nationally, and internationally.

30 The Legislature therefore finds and declares that it is in the  
31 public interest to establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction  
32 program to limit the level of Statewide greenhouse gas emissions,  
33 and greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generated outside the  
34 State but consumed in the State, to the 1990 level or below, of those  
35 emissions by the year 2020, and to reduce those emissions to **【80%**  
36 **below the 2006 level】**, or below, 13 million metric tons by the year  
37 2050.

38 (cf: P.L.2007, c.112, s.2)

39  
40 2. Section 3 of P.L.2007, c.112 (C.26:2C-39) is amended to  
41 read as follows:

42 3. For the purposes of this act:

43 "Department" means the Department of Environmental  
44 Protection.

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 "Greenhouse gas" means carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide,  
2 hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and any  
3 other gas or substance determined by the Department of  
4 Environmental Protection to be a significant contributor to the  
5 problem of global warming.

6 "Statewide greenhouse gas emissions" means the sum of calendar  
7 year emissions of greenhouse gases from all sources within the  
8 State, and from electricity generated outside the State but consumed  
9 in the State, as determined by the department pursuant to subsection  
10 c. of section 5 of this act.

11 "2020 limit" means the level of greenhouse gas emissions equal  
12 to the 1990 level of Statewide greenhouse gas emissions.

13 "2050 limit" means the level of greenhouse gas emissions equal  
14 to **80 percent less than the 2006 level of Statewide greenhouse gas**  
15 **emissions** , or below, 13 million metric tons .

16 (cf: P.L.2007, c.112, s.3)

17  
18 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

## 21 STATEMENT

22  
23 Under the "Global Warming Response Act," P.L. 2007, c.112  
24 (C.26:2C-37 et seq.) the Legislature declared that internationally the  
25 issue of global warming has caused alarm, awareness, and action  
26 concerning climate changes occurring around the globe attributed to  
27 the high level of certain gases called "greenhouse gases" - gases  
28 that increase temperatures in the atmosphere and the risk of  
29 catastrophic changes to the Earth's ecosystems and environment.

30 Currently, under the Global Warming Response Act, the State's  
31 greenhouse gas emissions reduction program is required to limit the  
32 level of Statewide greenhouse gas emissions, and greenhouse gas  
33 emissions from electricity generated outside the State but consumed  
34 in the State, to the 1990 level or below, by the year 2020, which is  
35 123 million metric tons (MMT) CO2 equivalent and to further  
36 reduce those emissions to 80% below the 2006 level by the year  
37 2050, which is 26 MMT CO2 equivalent. New Jersey reached the  
38 2020 reduction goal or "2020 limit" in 2012, eight years ahead of  
39 schedule. For New Jersey to achieve the 2050 limit, deep emission  
40 reductions from energy-related greenhouse gas emissions are  
41 necessary.

42 This bill would require the State to further limit the level of  
43 Statewide greenhouse gas emissions, and greenhouse gas emissions  
44 from electricity generated outside the State but consumed in the  
45 State, to 13 million metric tons CO2 equivalent by 2050.